

ENGL 4005/5005  
 Good Wives and Nasty Women:  
 The Paradox of the Female Body in American Literature  
 CRN 50169, Section 01W, PAFF 107

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 Office Hours: TWR 12:15-1:00  
 & by appointment.



**In Person Class Meetings:** Class will meet in person MTWR 10:00-12:15 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

**Online Meetings:** We will have 4 online meetings—Monday (6/3) and Fridays (6/7, 6/14, & 6/21). See email for instructions for these days.

**Course Description:** Images of women in American literature tend to vacillate between the stereotypical fallen woman (or new woman) who challenges oppressive gender constructs to the ideal wife and mother figure who seeks to police cultural norms that uphold patriarchal economies. These portraits of im/proper womanhood differ widely from Kate Chopin's exploration of women who seek sexual equality to William Faulkner's oft grotesque creations that provoke fear and hatred in male characters. This class then, at its core, will trace images of the female body across a sampling of genres and literary periods in a variety of authors beginning with Realism and the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century through both Modernism and Post-Modernism.

**Required Texts & Materials:**

- ✦ Welty, Eudora. *The Robber Bridegroom*, Harcourt Brace (978-0156768078). Please purchase this edition.
- ✦ All poetry, short fiction, and non-fiction essays will be provided electronically. Students are expected to print the packet and bring hard copies to class.
- ✦ A notebook for taking class notes.
- ✦ Pocket folder for submitting work.

**Learning Outcomes:** Students will learn to

1. understand and assess the traditions, conventions, and contexts associated with the study of the English language and its literatures in the literary periods between the late nineteenth century and current times in America.
2. apply critical thinking skills to analyze, synthesize, and evaluate information and ideas from diverse oral, written, and/or visual sources, depending on course topic.

3. conduct research, develop organizational strategies, and compose professional documents using the academic conventions of English studies as a discipline.

**Assignments & Grade Distribution:** In-class presentations, group work, and other activities will complement class discussions on a regular basis. As the semester progresses, I will discuss and/or distribute specific guidelines for each written assignment. Please Note: You must complete *all* assignment to pass this course.

- ✚ (30%) Research Project. (Learning Outcomes 1, 2, & 3.)
- ✚ (30%) Electronic Journals & Online Modules. (Learning Outcomes 1 & 2.)
- ✚ (20%) Multimodal Presentation. (Learning Outcomes 1, 2, & 3.)
- ✚ (20%) Class Participation & Group Work. (Learning Outcomes 1 & 2.)

FYI—Graduate students taking this course as ENGL 5005 will have additional requirements for a few of the assignments. These components will be detailed on each assignment sheet.

### Reading Schedule

This schedule provides a *tentative* layout of in-class and out-of-class activities and assignments. As it is based on the estimated progress of our class, some modification (including additions, postponements, or deletions) will be necessary as we move through the short summer semester. Given the compressed semester, the reality is that we will move quickly; thus, it is imperative that you keep up (and even get ahead) with the reading.

Class Date	Assignments	Due Dates & Notes.
M 6/3	Class will be conducted online today; review all of the introductory material in CourseDen. This module includes the syllabus, a class overview video, and instructions for your required video introduction post.	<b>Due:</b> Your class video introduction posts are due by 8:00 p.m. this evening.
T 6/4	Read the three Chopin pieces for class today: “Désirée’s Baby,” “The Story of an Hour,” & “The Storm” (see packet 1).	
W 6/5	For class today, read Freeman’s “A New England Nun” (see packet 1), Faulkner’s “A Rose for Emily” (see packet 2), & O’Connor’s “Good Country People” (see packet 2).	
R 6/6	Read Zora Neale Hurston’s “Sweat” and “How it Feels to Be Colored Me” (see packet 2) for class today.	
F 6/7	Class will meet online today. Complete the module on “The Princess” by Katherine Anne Porter.	
M 6/10	Come prepared for our Porter synthesis discussion and Ravenel poetry workshop (see packet 3).	<b>Due:</b> Journal check #1.
T 6/11	For class, read the 20 <sup>th</sup> Century poetry materials: H.D. “Helen”; Lowell “Madonna of the Evening Flowers”; Sexton “Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs,” “Her Kind,” and “Cinderella”; and Piercy “Barbie Doll” (see packet 4).	

W 6/12	Read the Native American literature packet for class today: Silko "Yellow Woman"; Erdrich "Dear John Wayne" and "Fleur" (see packet 5).	
R 6/13	Read the American Intersections materials for class today: Anzaldua "How to Tame a Wild Tongue" and "El Sonavabitch"; Chang "Barbie Chang's Tears," "Mr. Darcy," and "I Once Was a Child"; Lorde "Stations"; and Walker "Southern Song" (see packet 6).	FYI—Last day to withdraw with a grade of W from Full Term (non-eCore) courses.
F 6/14	Class will meet online today. Complete the module on <i>The Robber Bridegroom</i> Contextual Documents.	
M 6/17	Read Eudora Welty's <i>The Robber Bridegroom</i> (1-88) for today.	<b>Due:</b> Journal check #2.
T 6/18	Finish reading <i>The Robber Bridegroom</i> for today.	
W 6/19	Contemporary Film Unit (TBA).	
R 6/20	Contemporary Film Unit (TBA).	
F 6/21	Class will meet online today. See instructions for the writing workshop module.	
M 6/24	In-class "surprise" unit. Seriously, you'll love it.	
T 6/25	Student presentations.	
W 6/26	Reading Day. No Class.	
R 6/27	Student presentations and evals. Final exam block. Last day of class.	<b>Due:</b> Final papers are due in by 8:00 p.m.

Please Note: In the event West Georgia closes due to inclement weather, you should continue your out-of-class assignments according to this schedule.

### Course Policies

**Attendance:** Given the amount of material we must cover in 18 class sessions (14 in person and 4 online), attendance and punctuality are mandatory and key to your success in this course. Arrive to our in-class days on time having completed any reading/writing assignments and be prepared to participate in class discussions and group work. As this class is a June session course, a student is allowed *two (2)* absences over the course of the semester, unless previously arranged. Upon the third absence, the student will no longer be able to pass the class. Be aware that no distinction exists between excused and unexcused absences. In addition, should you choose to withdraw, students should be aware that if the withdrawal date falls before the midpoint, the student will receive a "W." If the withdrawal date falls after the midpoint, the student will receive a "WF." Please note that tardiness counts against your two allotted absences at a rate of 0.25 per day late. In other words, if you are late to class four times, it will count as one missed class period. Tardiness may also negatively affect your class participation grade and may result in missed in-class work that cannot be made up. FYI—University policy regarding severe weather and emergency closings is posted at <https://www.westga.edu/police/policies.php> under the "Emergency Plans" link; official announcements about class and/or examination cancellations will be made by the university President and posted on the UWG homepage.

**Breaks:** Given the length of each class period, we will take a short scheduled break around 11:10 a.m. Save leg stretching, coffee runs, and other such business for the scheduled break. Also, please return promptly to class to avoid missing important material.

**Paper Format:** All written work for this class must be typed, double-spaced, use standard 1 inch margins, and conform to standard MLA guidelines. Please use Times New Roman 12 point font.

**Make-Up Work, Late Work, Recycled Papers, Etc.:**

- ✚ If you miss a class, it is up to you to check with a classmate in a timely fashion concerning missed notes and any homework assignments due the next period.
- ✚ All formal assignments are due at the start of class on the date specified in the course schedule unless otherwise noted. If you must miss a class on a date when an assignment is due, you need to make prior arrangements with me to submit your work on time.
- ✚ Late assignments are subject to a five point deduction for each day submitted after the due date, including weekend days.
- ✚ Recycled work (i.e. turning in material written for other professors) is not permissible in this class and will result in a non-passing grade on the assignment.

**Plagiarism:** The Department of English and Philosophy defines plagiarism as taking personal credit for the words and ideas of others as they are presented in electronic, print, and verbal sources. The use of another individual's words, phrases, or ideas without proper citation will result in the following at my discretion (no questions):

- ✚ a zero on the assignment.
- ✚ possible failure of this course.
- ✚ an official academic dishonesty report filed with UWG, which could lead to suspension from the university.

In short, as members of the UWG community, I expect you to fully abide by the university honor code, which can be found at <http://www.westga.edu/handbook/59.php>

**Conferences:** Each student is *required* to attend *at least one* conference with me during the course of the semester about the research project and the multimodal. Having that said, my office door is always open to you. Please come by during the hours noted on this syllabus whenever you have questions concerning class discussions, need advice or help with reading/writing assignments, etc. If you cannot attend my scheduled office hours, email me for an appointment.

**Class Decorum:** Throughout the semester, we will examine controversial topics, materials, and our critical reactions to them. Everyone in this class has both the right and the responsibility to express his or her critical reads of the texts in class discussions and to treat one another's ideas respectfully and seriously, even if – or especially if – you disagree. Consequently, ill-spirited discussions, unmerited comments, and intolerance are not permitted in the classroom. Also, please raise your hand when you would like to have the floor. This format facilitates structured discussion and equal participation.



**Controversial Content:** Some of these texts contain offensive language, violence, and a host of adult themes. It is my expectation that you approach and discuss the content of each piece in class with intellectual maturity and professionalism.

**Disruptive Behavior:** Students may be dismissed from any class meeting at which they exhibit behavior that disrupts the learning environment of others. Such behavior includes—but is not limited to—arriving late for class, sleeping (or the appearance of it), allowing cell phones to ring, text-messaging, frequently leaving class, and speaking disrespectfully to the instructor and/or to other students. Each dismissal of this kind will count as an absence and will be applied toward the attendance requirement policy above.

**Email:** In accordance with university policy, all email correspondence must take place through the UWG email system. I will email the class often; therefore, please be sure that your default address is set for your westga account in the Banner student system and that you check it regularly. Also, please keep in mind that email is professional correspondence; thus, remember to properly address your audience, use the same standards of writing that you would in any paper you write, and sign your email.

**Writing Center (TLC 1201):** The Writing Center is a valuable student resource and, while, consultants will not proofread, they will question, respond to, offer choices, and encourage revision in student essays. This is a free university service for you to take advantage of as often as you need. To schedule an appointment call the center at 678-839-6513. See <http://www.westga.edu/~writing/> for more information.

**Student Support:** The UWG community cares deeply about student welfare and is committed to providing a variety of support mechanisms for those who need additional academic support or who are experiencing distressing situations. The following resources may be helpful if you have specific needs that arise:

- Center for Academic Success—<http://www.westga.edu/cas/>
- Counseling Center—<https://www.westga.edu/student-services/counseling/index.php>
- UWG Cares—<http://www.westga.edu/UWGCares/>

**Special Accommodations:** Students in the UWG community have a right to equal access to classes and materials, regardless of special needs, whether temporary or permanent. Students with needs on file with Accessibility Services will be accommodated in this class per West Georgia regulations. Please send me your packet and meet with me immediately for arrangements. Accessibility services may be reached at (770) 839-6428 or see <https://www.westga.edu/accessibility/>

***Students should review the full common syllabus policies for UWG at***

<https://www.westga.edu/UWGSyllabusPolicies/>

***Information about the regulations governing campus carry at UWG can be found at***

<https://www.westga.edu/police/campus-carry.php>